

information; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 73. An act to amend title 44, United States Code, to require information on contributors to Presidential library fundraising organizations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.J. Res. 3. Joint resolution approving the location of a memorial to commemorate and honor the members of the Armed Forces who served on active duty in support of Operation Desert Storm or Operation Desert Shield; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-1. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urging the President of the United States and the United States Congress to review the changes to the Federal floodplain management regulations to assess whether exceptions should be made for potential building projects; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

SENATE RESOLUTION 421

Whereas, Blight is a growing problem in many communities in this Commonwealth; and

Whereas, Changes made to the Federal floodplain management regulations were issued by executive order in January 2015; and

Whereas, Flood insurance is now required under the executive order, making the redevelopment and revitalization of older, blighted properties financially straining; and

Whereas, Federal agencies are obligated to apply these standards to all Federal actions, including federally approved permits, federally backed home loans and flood insurance regulations and many Housing and Urban Development programs, including the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program; and

Whereas, While these changes were intended to enhance the safety and security of citizens during floods and to diminish the risk of flood loss, the modifications to the Federal floodplain management regulations have hindered the ability of our older communities to develop creative, nonprohibitive ways to renovate abandoned buildings: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the President and the Congress of the United States to review the changes to the Federal floodplain management regulations to assess whether exceptions should be made for potential building projects so that applications can be submitted to the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency for review and consideration under the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program and so that the applications are not at an economic disadvantage; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, to the presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

POM-2. A resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Florida urging the United States Congress to enact legislation to promote economic recovery in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

HOUSE MEMORIAL 601

Whereas, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the State of Florida share a strong

cultural bond and are important trade partners, and

Whereas, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico has experienced a prolonged and difficult economic recession that has led to mass unemployment in Puerto Rico and decreased trade opportunities with the State of Florida, and

Whereas, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico has public debts in excess of \$72 billion, which continue to cripple Puerto Rico's ability to improve and sustain economic growth, and

Whereas, the 1984 amendments to the United States Bankruptcy Code prohibit the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico from authorizing its municipalities and public utilities to file for bankruptcy relief under Chapter 9 of the code, and

Whereas, the United States Bankruptcy Code amendments require Puerto Rico's municipalities and public utilities to engage in piecemeal negotiations with each of their creditors, rather than consolidating debt and developing a comprehensive plan for repayment, and

Whereas, the citizens of Puerto Rico are suffering greatly due to their government's inability to renegotiate the terms of this debt under a comprehensive plan, and

Whereas, the United States Government has an obligation to promote and assist the economic prosperity of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as an important territory of our nation, and

Whereas, the United States Congress eliminated a tax exemption for manufacturers from Section 936 of the Internal Revenue Code, greatly contributing to an increase in unemployment in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and

Whereas, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico would greatly benefit from new ideas and programs that promote economic development to bring high paying jobs back to Puerto Rico, and

Whereas, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the State of Florida would both benefit from Puerto Rico's renewed economic prosperity, and

Whereas, the national debt of the United States is currently more than \$19 trillion. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

That the Congress of the United States is urged to enact legislation to promote economic recovery in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico consistent with sound fiscal principles necessary to reduce the national debt; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this memorial be dispatched to the President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.

POM-3. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Michigan urging the President of the United States and the United States Congress to curb and clarify the role and authority of the United States Department of Education as it relates to the "supplement not supplant" provisions in the Every Student Succeeds Act; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 214

Whereas, The federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires that federal Title I funding to low-income students supplements, rather than supplants, state and local dollars. This provision is intended to keep local school districts from using federal Title I dollars as a replacement for state and local dollars in low-income schools; and

Whereas, To enforce this provision, the U.S. Department of Education has proposed burdensome regulations to require school districts to show that average per-pupil state and local spending in Title I schools is at least equal to the average spending in non-Title I schools. The rules allow several different options for districts to calculate spending and demonstrate compliance with "supplement not supplant"; and

Whereas, The proposed regulations exceed the legal authority of the department and blatantly trample on explicit statutory prohibitions. Specific prohibitions in the "supplement not supplant" provisions include subdivision 1118(b)(4), which says, "Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize or permit the Secretary to prescribe the specific methodology a local educational agency uses to allocate state and local funds to each school receiving assistance under this part"; and

Whereas, School district personnel have complained that the proposed regulations would be unworkable. The School Superintendents Association (AASA) stated that the proposed regulation "glosses over the realities of school finance, the reality of how and when funds are allocated, the extent to which districts do or do not have complete flexibility, the patterns of teacher sorting and hiring, and the likelihood that many students would experience the rule, as drafted, in a way that undermines true efforts aimed at increasing education equity". Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we urge the President of the United States to direct the U.S. Department of Education to stop its federal overreach as it relates to the "supplement not supplant" provisions of the Every Student Succeeds Act; and be it further

Resolved, That we memorialize Congress to enact legislation that clarifies the Department of Education's role and authority as it pertains to "supplement not supplant" provisions; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the members of the Michigan congressional delegation, and the U.S. Department of Education as public comment on proposed rules.

POM-4. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Michigan urging the United States Congress to pass the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Education and Reform Act of 2015; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 204

Whereas, The ADA was enacted in 1990 to improve access and equality for disabled Americans. After 25 years in effect, the integrity of the ADA is in question because of the onslaught of lawsuits against small businesses due to minor and correctable infractions; and

Whereas, Small businesses provide goods and services that are vital to our economy and it is important that every effort is made to ensure disabled Americans have access to those goods and services. When there are minor and easily correctable ADA infractions, small businesses are increasingly being faced with lawsuits by individuals; and

Whereas, The threat or actual occurrence of a lawsuit places small business in the dilemma of choosing whether to settle the suit or face the potentially exorbitant cost of litigation in terms of both time and money. Additionally, plaintiffs who abuse the ADA system often file multiple cases, many with businesses and properties; and

Whereas, The ADA Education and Reform Act of 2015 proposes to provide business owners an opportunity to remedy alleged ADA violations before facing the cost of legal fees. The act would provide business owners a 120-day window within which to make the public accommodation corrections that they were cited for under the ADA. It restores the ADA to its original purpose of enabling access and accommodation to disabled Americans. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That we, the Senators of the 98th Legislature of the state of Michigan, on behalf of all citizens of this state, respectfully urge the U.S. Congress to pass the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Education and Reform Act of 2015; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-5. A resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey urging the United States Congress and the President of the United States to enact legislation to ensure that students from the State of New Jersey and throughout the United States have access to debt-free higher education at public colleges and universities; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 183

Whereas, A college education is one of the most valuable investments a family can make, but it has never been more difficult for families to afford the dream of college as the cost has grown exponentially in recent decades; and

Whereas, According to the White House, the cost of college has risen more than 250 percent over the last three decades, while income for typical families grew by only 16 percent, making it difficult for a student to graduate without debt; and

Whereas, As a result, an increasing number of young Americans, including many from New Jersey, have been forced to borrow significant amounts to afford the cost of higher education. According to a study from LendEDU, New Jersey ranks ninth in the country in student loan debt, with the average student loan debt for New Jersey's public and private college and university graduates at over \$30,000 in 2016; and

Whereas, Student loan debt saddles the very students who most depend on a college degree to level the economic playing field with a burden that constrains their career choices, hurts their credit ratings, prevents them from fully participating in the economy, and threatens essential milestones of the American dream such as buying a home or car, starting a family, and saving for retirement; and

Whereas, Young people in the State of New Jersey and throughout the country should have the same opportunity offered to those who went to college in previous generations, including the ability to attend public colleges and universities without taking on burdensome debt; and

Whereas, Because of the importance of higher education to the nation's economy, the United States and its state governments should expand the opportunity to pursue and attain a college degree; and

Whereas, Public investment in higher education pays off, as evidenced by the fact that workers with college degrees earn more money, pay more taxes, and rely less on government services; and

Whereas, A national goal of establishing a debt-free public higher education system would include significant federal aid to

states, including New Jersey. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. This House urges Congress and the President of the United States to enact legislation to ensure that students from the State of New Jersey and throughout the United States have access to debt-free higher education at public colleges and universities.

2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State, shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly to the President and Vice-President of the United States, the Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, and every member of Congress elected from this State.

POM-6. A memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Florida applying to the United States Congress to call a convention under Article V of the United States Constitution with the sole agenda of proposing an amendment to the United States Constitution to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected as a member of the United States House of Representatives and to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected as a member of the United States Senate; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE MEMORIAL 417

Whereas, Article V of the Constitution of the United States requires Congress to call a convention for the sole purpose of proposing amendments to the Constitution upon application of two-thirds of the states; and

Whereas, a continuous and growing concern has been expressed that the best interests of the nation will be served by limiting the terms of members of Congress; and

Whereas, the voters of the State of Florida, by the gathering of petition signatures, placed on the general election ballot of 1992 a measure to limit the consecutive years of service for several offices, including the offices of United States Representative and United States Senator; and

Whereas, the voters of Florida incorporated this limitation into the State Constitution as Section 4 of Article VI, by an approval vote that exceeded 76 percent in the general election of 1992; and

Whereas, in 1995, the United States Supreme Court ruled in *U.S. Term Limits, Inc. v. Thornton*, 514 U.S. 779 (1995), a five-to-four decision, that the individual states did not possess the requisite authority to establish term limits, or additional qualifications, for persons elected to the United States House of Representatives or the United States Senate; and

Whereas, upon reflecting on the intent of the voters of this state and their overwhelming support for congressional term limits, the Legislature, in its 114th Regular Session since Statehood in 1845, did express through a memorial to Congress the desire to receive an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to limit the number of consecutive terms that a person may serve in the United States House of Representatives or the United States Senate; and

Whereas, the Legislature; in its 118th Regular Session since statehood in 1845, does desire to see a convention called under Article V of the Constitution of the United States with the sole agenda of proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States on the subject of congressional term limits as specified in this memorial. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

(1) That the Legislature of the State of Florida does hereby make application to

Congress, pursuant to Article V of the Constitution of the United States, to call an Article V convention with the sole agenda of proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected as a member of the United States House of Representatives and to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected as a member of the United States Senate.

(2) That this application does not revoke or supersede Senate Memorial 476 as passed by the 2014 Florida Legislature, but constitutes a separate, independent application addressing congressional term limits as specified in this application.

(3) That this application is revoked and withdrawn, nullified, and superseded to the same effect as if it had never been passed, and retroactive to the date of passage, if it is used for the purpose of calling a convention or used in support of conducting a convention to amend the Constitution of the United States with any agenda other than to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected as a member of the United States House of Representatives and to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected as a member of the United States Senate.

(4) That this application constitutes a continuing application in accordance with Article V of the Constitution of the United States until the legislatures of at least two-thirds of the several states have made application on the subject of congressional term limits as specified in this application.

(5) That this application be aggregated with the applications from other states on the same subject for the purpose of attaining the two-thirds majority needed to require Congress to call a limited Article V convention as specified in this application, but not be aggregated with any other applications on any other subject; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this application be dispatched to the President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, to each member of the Florida delegation to the United States Congress, and to the presiding officer of each house of the legislature of each state.

POM-7. A resolution adopted by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Boonton, New Jersey, expressing condemnation of publications and distribution of any and all images that purport to glorify or justify violence against law enforcement officers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

POM-8. A resolution adopted by the Town Board of the Charter Township of Waterford, Michigan, relative to the Refugee Resettlement Program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 32. A bill to provide for conservation, enhanced recreation opportunities, and development of renewable energy in the California Desert Conservation Area, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr.

SULLIVAN, Mr. DAINES, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HELLER, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. LEE, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr.